

IRTS Radio News Bulletin Sunday August 27th, 2023

IRTS SSB Field Day

Good luck to everyone taking part in the IRTS SSB Field Day next weekend. It will take place from 13:00 UTC next Saturday September 2nd to 13:00 UTC on Sunday September 3rd. Activity will focus on SSB phone contacts in the 3.5, 7, 14, 21 and 28 MHz bands. Operators can enter the open section or choose either the 6- or 24-hour restricted sections. Further details including the rules may be found at www.irts.ie/contests

Amateur Radio Exhibits at Dublin Maker

Dublin Maker is a free to attend, community run event taking place at Richmond Barracks, Inchicore, Dublin 8 on Saturday September 2nd. Organised by fellow radio amateur, Jeffrey EI7IRB, it takes the form of a “show and tell” experience where inventors/makers were sourced through an open call. They will have an opportunity to showcase their creations in a carnival atmosphere. It is a family-friendly showcase of invention, creativity and resourcefulness, and a celebration of the maker movement. It’s a place where people show what they are making and share what they are learning. Makers range from tech enthusiasts to crafters, educators, tinkerers, hobbyists, engineers, artists, science clubs, students, authors, and commercial exhibitors. They are of all ages and backgrounds, coming from all over Ireland and beyond. This year there will be over 40 exhibitors with three that will be especially interesting to radio amateurs. Radio Space by South Dublin Radio Club EI2SDR will feature software-defined radio and live QSOs. Tony EI5EM will showcase some of his amateur radio home construction projects. Howard EI9LC will demonstrate LoRaWAN, which is a long-range wide area networking technology. The event will run from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The Eircode for Richmond Barracks in Dublin is D08 YY05.

South Eastern Amateur Radio Group EI2WRC

The August meeting of the South Eastern Amateur Radio Group EI2WRC will take place tomorrow, Monday, August 28th at 8 p.m. sharp at the New Community Men’s Shed, Ozanam Centre, Coffee House Lane, Waterford. Everyone is welcome to attend. On the 2nd and 3rd of September, Seany, Shirley, Keith, and the entire EI2WRC team invite everyone to come to Bagenalstown in Carlow for a fun day out as part of the IRTS SSB Field Day Contest. It will be a very social weekend and a chance to catch up with friends. Drop by for a cup of tea and a chat. Everyone is very welcome. Anyone who may be attending on the Sunday morning is asked to please let Seany know as soon as possible please by phone on 083 4713001 or email to ei2hzb /at/ gmail.com To find out more about EI2WRC and their activities or for contact details please see www.searg.ie

Cork Radio Club Update

Cork Radio Club continue to meet on the Zoom platform every two weeks with the next meeting on Monday night August 28th. The meeting starts at around 8.30 p.m. when the IRTS news transmission by Vincent EI7HN on the Cork repeaters concludes. A link to the meeting is circulated by email and if you wish to be included, send an email to [info /at/ corkradioclub.ie](mailto:info@corkradioclub.ie). The link is also posted on the Cork Radio Club Facebook page, and everybody is welcome to join in.

Galway Radio Club Trip to Inishbofin

Members of the Galway Radio Club will be taking their annual trip to Inishbofin, starting on Saturday August 26th, and will remain on the island until the following Saturday. They will have a number of different antennas set up covering both HF and VHF/UHF and can be heard on different bands on CW, SSB, and FT8 depending on the propagation. The callsign used will be EJ4GRC, and they will be on air from Sunday to the following Friday morning. The club wish to note that this is not a DXpedition; it is a mix of radio, walking and socialising. They welcome any contacts from other operators around the country and even further afield.

North Dublin Radio Club 50th Anniversary

The North Dublin Radio Club is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. Last weekend, the club activated its special callsign EI50NDR at the Baily Lighthouse in Howth during the International Lighthouses on the Air event. The tail-end of Storm Betty made it a little difficult to erect the two vertical masts on Saturday morning at this elevated and exposed location. The antenna was a 40m long end-fed wire. The station was QRV from about 10 a.m. as the fun began. Band conditions were quite good, particularly on twenty metres. The activation was very well supported by club members and several visitors. The sun shone for the two days presenting spectacular views across Dublin Bay. Over 300 QSOs were made on SSB, CW, and FT8. The club wish to thank everybody who supported the activation, especially Mick Cahill, EI6IKB who was the main organiser of the weekend, and to the staff of Irish Lights for facilitating the event.

Propagation Update

Solar activity has been relatively stable over the past week and is expected to remain so over the coming days. The planetary K-index, which characterizes the magnitude of geomagnetic storms, has remained under five indicating relatively calm conditions. This means that propagation conditions should be reasonably good on the HF bands with little risk of radio blackouts. Noise on the bands due to solar activity is expected to increase later in the week however due to new active sun regions. On the VHF bands, Sporadic E conditions favouring the 6-meter band have been reported generally from solar noon

onwards. The tropospheric ducting forecast indicates a short opening for 2-metre band enthusiasts early on Monday only this week.

Items for Inclusion in Next Week's Radio News

That is the news for this week. Items for inclusion in next week's radio news can be submitted by email to newsteam/at/irts/dot/ie for automatic forwarding to both the radio and printed news services. The deadline is midnight on Thursday.

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